

Belle Grove, White Castle Vicinity  
Iberville Parish, Louisiana

HABS No. La. 36

HABS  
LA

24-Whica.v

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PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
Louisiana

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Richard Koch, District Officer  
908 Queen & Crescent Building, New Orleans, La.

BELLE GROVE

Owner

Estate of William Mason Smith and Norman Mayer, New Orleans, La.

Architect

Probably James Gallier, Sr.

Builder

John Andrews (contractor not known) 1857

Present Condition

Ruinous

Number of Stories

Two stories, basement and attic.

Materials of Construction

Brick, stuccoed to resemble stone. Slate roof. Marble steps.

Other Existing Records

Report on Belle Grove Plantation, William R. Hogan, Historic Site Survey, National Park Service, Department of the Interior. Court Records of Iberville Parish, Court House, Plaquemine, Louisiana. Photographs by Tebb in Metropolitan Museum.

Additional Data

Belle Grove, one of the largest country houses built in Louisiana prior to the Civil War, well represents the magnificence and luxuriousness that we associate with the sugar planter of the period that culminated in the Civil War, and, though at times it has looked as if this life may again be resurrected, the present day ruins of Belle Grove tell in no uncertain terms that the era is closed.

Built in 1857 by John Andrews, a Virginian who came to Louisiana about 1830, Belle Grove was sold in 1868 for \$50,000.00 to Henry Ware, in whose family it remained until the gradual break-up of the plantation after 1910. Its architectural interest centers definitely in its leanings towards Victorian thought that was then finding its way

DATA NOT COMPILED AND NOT GUARANTEED  
BY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

into Louisiana and has left a period that is little appreciated and not at all understood. The Greek Revival had culminated in plantations like Maidwood and Woodlawn (HABS No. La. 20) in Bayou Lafourche, some fifty miles away, both American versions of Greek Architecture, but in Belle Grove the stately portico of Corinthian columns with its entrance stairway of marble suggests more the English idea of Classic architecture, while the picturesque grouping of the service buildings and the curved ends of the drawing rooms are definite indications of the new Victorian era. Section IX of A. J. Downing's Landscape Gardening and Rural Architecture by A. J. Downing - Wiley & Putnam, Publishers - 1844, may help to explain this house.

The setting of Belle Grove is not impressive; perhaps the period was too late for the formal backgrounds of the earlier period and, if the grounds were informally landscaped, no traces exist, for to-day a pasture with an occasional group of trees separates the house from the river road. However, neither do old pictures or maps show extensive gardens and there are no traces of the race-track of the Waree.

The scheme of Belle Grove is informal - a two-story building on a raised basement; the entrance, accentuated by a pedimented portico carrying through the roof line of a Greek Temple, dominates the mass. A wing to the right has the same portico, but is subordinated by omitting the pediment and the stairs. To the rear is a lower wing (now demolished) tied to the house by the circular stair. To the left is the one-story and basement service wing which piles up picturesquely against the horizontal roof lines of the pseudo temple.

The interior planning is noteworthy for the spaciousness of its

rooms and particularly for the modern way in which the various parts are related. The entrance is not on the axis of the portico, but is to the side, as was customary in many domestic Greek Revival houses. A wide hall which leads to the circular staircase in the rear separates the living quarters from the service section. The main bedroom was on the first floor with a dressing room and reception room; there was also a bedroom off the library, which had access to the ground by a small staircase probably of wood. The second floor had six bedrooms with closets and dressing rooms and so divided by halls as to give a privacy not found in other plantation houses. The living rooms, servants' rooms, and particularly the water closet were luxuries that were only found in the larger houses of New Orleans. The drawing room, parlor, dining room and halls are elaborately detailed with pilasters, cornices, and centerpieces in the style of the late Greek Revival. These same details may be found in the neighborhood and in many of the old houses of New Orleans. The mantels are gone; the writer from memory remembers them as of black marble and of late Greek Revival detail and with cast iron facings and grates of Gothic Revival design. The walls were not white as was the custom, but were light yellow, blue, or rose, of which traces may still be found. The interior doors were grained (imitation oak) and the woodwork was painted white with a base of lavender rose, as was also the interior boxes of the window blinds. This painted base is found in the homes of 1830 - Hurst Stauffer House, The Shadows (HABS No. La. 75).

The structure of Belle Grove is brick cemented and painted a pale lavender rose. Scaling the wash, it is evident that the plaster was

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painted first blue, then pink, with a final wash of lavender. On the columns the blue was omitted. The original color must have been much stronger as these colors were applied with what appears to be a lime wash. The columns of the portico are also of cemented brick, but the caps are carved cypress, the order from the Temple of Lysicrates. The exterior woodwork is painted a yellow olive green and the window sash striped in red. The balconies are of wood held on carved brackets and with cast iron railings of patterns common in New Orleans, as also was the verandah of the rear wing. The roof is of purple and blue slate probably from Vermont or Pennsylvania, though the ridge tiles have the mark - "C. Davison & Co., Manuf<sup>rs</sup>., Hawarden Flintshire". The flashings are of copper, and in the last few years, slight repair to this roof would have saved the building.

James Gallier, Sr. is credited with being the architect, but as he had retired when Belle Grove was built, it is probable that his son or his office handled the work. The details of the woodwork and many of the plan arrangements are similar to those of the City Hall in New Orleans and the Elkin-Henderson House, both attributed to Gallier, Sr. The execution of the carving of the wood Corinthian caps is excellent, and followed minutely Greek examples. A copy of Stuart and Revett was in Gallier's library. These caps are still in position and only one on the north side of the entrance portico shows signs of deterioration. The plaster centerpieces were as well executed, but none remain, having been pulled down by vandals.

To-day Belle Grove is a wreck; the windows and ironwork are gone and the mantels and furnishings were sold at auction in 1925. The

rear wing collapsed or was torn down. The main mass still stands, but large cracks are evident in the south portico which is supported on a base of elliptical arches. No doubt the foundation is sliding away from the main building.

Slowly this symbol of Louisiana's prosperity before the War disintegrates; and, on a rainy day with water dripping from the ceilings in many places, you know that Belle Grove will be soon another memory.

**DATA NOT COMPILED AND NOT GUARANTEED  
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THE FOLLOWING IS AN ESTATE INVENTORY

MADE AFTER THE DEATH, ON SEPTEMBER 5, 1908, OF JAMES A. WARE

(RECORDS OF 21ST JUDICIAL COURT, NO. 175, IBERVILLE PARISH, LOUISIANA).

PLANTATION MOVABLES

Art. 4. Eighty Eight Mules were appraised at \$125.00, ea.	\$11000.00
Art. 5. Eighteen 4 mule Carts, were appraised at \$50.00 each,	900.00
Art. 6. Two 3 Mule Carts, were appraised at \$10.00 ea.	20.00
Art. 7. Twenty Five 2 Horse Plows, were appraised \$6.00 ea.	150.00
Art. 8. Seven 4 Horse Plows, were appraised \$10.00 ea.	70.00
Art. 9. Four 4 Horse Double M. B. Plows, appraised \$12.00 ea.	48.00
Art.10. Six 2 Horse Double M. B. Plows appraised \$12.00 ea.	72.00
Art.11. Three Listers appraised \$25.00 ea.	75.00
Art.12. Twelve Magnolia Cultivators appraised \$25.00 ea.	300.00
Art.13. Fourteen Walking Cultivators appraised \$12.50 ea.	175.00
Art.14. Ten Riding Cultivators appraised \$15.00 ea.	150.00
Art.15. Seven Stubble Diggers appraised \$20.00 ea.	140.00
Art.16. One Road Machine appraised \$75.00 ea.	75.00
Art.17. Gears for 88 Mules Lot appraised \$100.00 ea.	100.00
Art.18. One Lot Hose and Shovels appraised \$20.00 ea.	20.00
	<u>\$13,295.00</u>

HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS

Art.19. 1 Lot Parlor Furniture, consisting of 27 pes. upholstered, sofas and chairs, appraised at	\$300.00
Art.20. 1 Marble Top Center Table and scarf	
	appraised at 15.00
Art.21. 1 Silver Hanging Basket	" " 12.00
Art.22. 1 Liquor Set, 24 pes.	" " "
in case	10.00
Art.23. 1 Pr. Figures	" " 10.00
Art.24. 2 Marble Statuettes,	" " 40.00



	appraised at	
Art. 25. 1 Statue of Venue	50.00	1-
Art. 26. 1 Bronze Clock	20.00	
Art. 27. 1 Pr. Bronze Candelabra,	150.00	
Art. 28. 1 Pr. Glass Candelabra,	75.00	
Art. 29. 3 Decorated Plates, Lot	100.00	
Art. 30. 1 Marble Top Table and Scarf	15.00	
Art. 31. 1 Red Glase Lamp,	7.00	
Art. 32. 1 Etagere,	50.00	
Art. 33. 1 Pr. Statuettes	7.00	
Art. 34. 1 Decorated Vase,	4.00	
Art. 35. 2 Decorated Plates,	4.00	
Art. 36. 1 Glase Dish, on frame,	5.00	
Art. 37. Ornaments, shelle etc.	20.00	
Art. 38. 1 Easel and Water color Painting	25.00	
Art. 39. 1 Music Cabinet	20.00	
Art. 40. 1 Lamp	5.00	
Art. 41. 1 Bronze Statue (Carrier)	100.00	
Art. 42. 3 Wall Lamps,	10.00	
Art. 43. 1 Stand Lamp	7.00	
Art. 44. 1 Small Table	12.00	
Art. 45. 1 Small Tri-Angular Table	10.00	
Art. 46. 22 cupe and Saucere	15.00	
Art. 47. Plated Tea Pot.	12.00	
Art. 48. 1 Cane Easel and Water Color Painting	25.00	
Art. 49. 3 cane seat Chaire	25.00	
Art. 50. 2 Mural Paintings, "Trieбал"	100.00	
Art. 51. 1 Porcelain Painting "Captive Princesses"	800.00	
Art. 52. 2 Colored Engravings,	30.00	
Art. 53. 2 Valences,	200.00	
Art. 54. 2 prs. Lace Curtaine	50.00	
Art. 55. 3 Valences,	75.00	
Art. 56. 3 Pre. Curtains	60.00	
Art. 57. 3 Window Shadee	25.00	
Art. 58. 1 Marble Top Table	15.00	
Art. 59. 3 Decorated Plates,	30.00	
Art. 60. 1 Cut Glase Large Bowl	100.00	
Art. 61. 1 Organ	80.00	
Art. 62. 1 Large Vase	10.00	
Art. 63. 1 Pair Silver Candle Sticks	2.50	
Art. 64. 1 Pr. Urns,	15.00	
Art. 65. 1 Bronze Candlestick	10.00	
Art. 66. 1 Small Lamp	2.00	
Art. 67. 1 Pr. Statuettes,	20.00	
Art. 68. 1 Vase	4.00	
Art. 69. 1 Decorated Jug,	2.00	
Art. 70. 1 Small Marble Top Table	15.00	
Art. 71. 1 Metal Lamp	10.00	

Art. 72.	2 Table Mirrors,	Appraised at	4.00	1-
Art. 73.	1 Pr. Cut Glass Vases	" "	20.00	
Art. 74.	3 Small Cut Glass Bowls	" "	24.00	
Art. 75.	2 Decorated Plates,	" "	25.00	
Art. 76.	1 Large Center Table & Scarf	" "	30.00	
Art. 77.	1 Decorated Lamp	" "	12.00	
Art. 78.	1 Decorated Tea Set,	" "	30.00	
Art. 79.	6 Decorated Plates,	" "	200.00	
Art. 80.	1 Fruit Dish,	" "	5.00	
Art. 81.	5 Cut Glass Bowls	" "	25.00	
Art. 82.	1 Silver Set (12 Tea Spoons)	" "	40.00	
Art. 83.	1 Fish Set, 3 pes.	" "	30.00	
Art. 84.	13 Pes. Silver Spoons &c.	" "	25.00	
Art. 85.	2 Ash Trays,	" "	2.00	
Art. 86.	1 Dining Table	" "	100.00	
Art. 87.	1 Yellow Lamp	" "	12.00	
Art. 88.	1 Decorated Stein,	" "	1.00	
Art. 89.	1 Decorated Pitcher,	" "	8.00	
Art. 90.	1 Fruit Dish,	" "	5.00	
Art. 91.	1 Glass Pitcher	" "	1.00	
Art. 92.	1 China Closet	" "	40.00	
Art. 93.	113 Decorated Plates, Lot	" "	600.00	
Art. 94.	2 Glass Pitchers	" "	4.00	
Art. 95.	2 Decanters	" "	3.00	
Art. 96.	2 Spoon Holders,	" "	4.00	
Art. 97.	4 Glass Dishes	" "	10.00	
Art. 98.	1 Large Decorated Dish	" "	10.00	
Art. 99.	1 Decorated Fruit Dish	" "	5.00	
Art. 100.	2 Sauce Bowls	" "	8.00	
Art. 101.	2 Large China Fruit Dishes,	" "	25.00	
Art. 102.	2 Decorated Pitchers	" "	4.00	
Art. 103.	1 Lot Asst. Coffee Souvinier Spoons and Basket	" "	12.00	
Art. 104.	1 Lot Small Glasses	" "	4.00	
Art. 105.	1 Lot Decorated Cups and Saucers	" "	20.00	
Art. 106.	1 Lot Sugar Bowls, Pitchers, etc.	" "	15.00	
Art. 107.	1 Glass Punch Bowl,	" "	10.00	
Art. 108.	2 each. colored Glass Pitcher & Bowls	" "	20.00	
Art. 109.	1 inlaid Table	" "	12.00	
Art. 110.	1 China Fish Set 115 pes.	" "	100.00	
Art. 111.	1 Pr. Bronze Candlebra	" "	100.00	
Art. 112.	3 Decorated Plates and Frames	" "	60.00	
Art. 113.	1 Small Clock	" "	1.00	
Art. 114.	1 Small Square Table	" "	10.00	
Art. 115.	1 China Decorated Lamp	" "	7.00	
Art. 116.	2 Rockers, Leather Seat,	" "	30.00	
Art. 117.	2 Oil Paintings,	" "	100.00	

Art. 118.	2 Valences,	Appraised at	200.00
Art. 119.	2 Lace Curtains	" "	25.00
Art. 120.	1 Wall Candlebra with mirror	" "	7.00
Art. 121.	1 Lot Carpets and Rugs,	" "	100.00
Art. 122.	11 Engravings,	" "	40.00
Art. 123.	1 Extension Dining Table	" "	40.00
Art. 124.	1 Heater	" "	20.00
Art. 125.	1 Oak Marble Top Sideboard	" "	200.00
Art. 126.	1 Walnut Marble Top Sideboard	" "	200.00
Art. 127.	1 Small Marble Top Sideboard	" "	75.00
Art. 128.	1 Large Oak China Closet	" "	200.00
Art. 129.	1 Small China Closet	" "	40.00
Art. 130.	2 Cane seat Armchairs	" "	15.00
Art. 131.	2 Cane Seat Chairs	" "	10.00
Art. 132.	2 Small Tables	" "	20.00
Art. 133.	1 Chest Silver Ware,	" "	400.00
Art. 134.	1 Water Cooler,	" "	15.00
Art. 135.	1 Pink Lamp	" "	10.00
Art. 136.	1 Pr. Silver Plated Candlebra	" "	5.00
Art. 137.	1 Clock,	" "	5.00
Art. 138.	1 Brass Lamp,	" "	2.50
Art. 139.	1 Decorated Lamp,	" "	5.00
Art. 140.	1 Large Red Lamp	" "	10.00
Art. 141.	1 Lot of Glass Ware in Dining Room Lot,	" "	1172.00
Art. 142.	1 Lot of China Ware including Dinner Sets etc. &c in Dining Room	" "	435.00
Art. 143.	1 Lot Silver and plated Ware in Dining Room	" "	600.00
Art. 144.	5 Framed Pictures in Dining Room	" "	15.00
Art. 145.	1 Lot Table Linen	" "	30.00
Art. 146.	1 Hat Rack	" "	25.00
Art. 147.	1 Lounge	" "	12.00
Art. 148.	1 Marble Top Table	" "	15.00
Art. 149.	1 Hall Clock	" "	100.00
Art. 150.	2 Large Jardinieres	" "	25.00
Art. 151.	1 Umbrella Stand	" "	10.00
Art. 152.	1 Pedestal and Statue	" "	50.00
Art. 153.	1 Mural Painting	" "	50.00
Art. 154.	1 Set 5 Paintings	" "	250.00
Art. 155.	1 Engraving	" "	7.50
Art. 156.	1 Small Marble Top Table	" "	12.00
Art. 157.	2 Book Cases & a lot of Miscellaneous Books	" "	600.00
Art. 158.	6 Jardinieres	" "	90.00
Art. 159.	4 Lamps	" "	20.00
Art. 160.	4 Odd Bowls and Vases	" "	20.00

Art. 161.	1 Wicker Lounge and two Rookers	Appraised at	24.00
Art. 162.	1 Oblong Center Table	" "	12.00
Art. 163.	12 Lamps	" "	6.00
Art. 164.	1 Chiffonier, Marble Top	" "	20.00
Art. 165.	1 Large Square Table,	" "	50.00
Art. 166.	1 Oak Armchair	" "	20.00
Art. 167.	1 Lot Bric-a-Brac	" "	15.00
Art. 168.	1 Pr. Portieres		
Art. 169.	1 Set Furniture & Contents, Dec'd. Bed Room, Lot		200.00
Art. 170.	1 Lot Furniture &c contents of Rear room, Lot	" "	150.00
Art. 171.	1 Lot Furniture &c Mrs. J. A. Ware's room	" "	200.00
Art. 172.	1 Oak Armoire	" "	25.00
Art. 173.	Painting "Seth Warner"	" "	100.00
Art. 174.	3 Copies of Paintings	" "	35.00
Art. 175.	Contents of Office, Furniture, Desks &c.	" "	150.00
Art. 176.	Contents of 2 Upstairs Rear Rooms	" "	100.00
Art. 177.	Contents of Room over Mrs. Ware's room	" "	200.00
Art. 178.	Contents of Room of J. S. Ware's Room and Bath room	" "	330.00
Art. 179.	Contents of Bed Room over Parlor	" "	250.00
Art. 180.	Contents of Middle Bed Room	" "	300.00
Art. 181.	Contents of Hall Upstairs	" "	125.00
Art. 182.	Contents of Kitchen,	" "	75.00
	TOTAL HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS		<u>\$12211.00</u>

NOTE: The above Household Effects in the Belle Grove Residence, embraces separate property of said Mrs. J. A. Ware as well as property belonging to said Community, - no effect having been made at this time to separate one from the other, - and the signors reserve all their rights in and to the same.

#### HORSES, CATTLE AND SHEEP

Art. 183.	4 Head Horses, Appraised at \$100.00 ea.	\$400.00
Art. 184.	35 Head Horned Cattle, Lot Appr'd at	700.00
Art. 185.	90 Sheep, Lot Appraised at	<u>180.00</u>
	TOTAL HORSES, CATTLE AND SHEEP . . . . .	\$1280.00

#### MERCHANDISE

Art. 186. Stock of Merchandise, Dry Goods,

Groceries, and Plantation  
Supplies contained in Plantation  
Store on said Belle Grove Plantation  
Appraised at

\$3250.00

STOCK

Art. 187. 1 Certificate No. B-2967, for 100  
Shares of \$100.00 each, of the  
Common Stock of the New Orleans  
Railway & Light Co. in the name of  
James A. Ware, dated Aug. 26, 1907,  
Appraised at

\$1300.00

RIGHTS AND CREDITS

Art. 188. An account due by Lovinski Hebert &  
sons, for 1907, amounting to  
\$1367.05, was appraised at

683.50

Art. 189. An account due by J. P. Bourgeois  
for 1907 amounting to \$891.91,  
was appraised at

891.91

Art. 190. Amounts due by Plantation Tenants,  
Lovinski Hebert & Sons, J. F.  
Boudreaux, Frank Martines and Bavarre &  
Iddle, for A/C Advances 1908, aggregating  
\$2000.00, were appraised at

2000.00  
\$3575.41

CHAIN OF TITLE

(Lot of 26.28 acres, on which is situated the Belle Grove residence)

Conveyance Records  
Vol. 50, Entry 32  
August 24, 1926

William Mason Smith, Sr. and Norman Meyer,  
acquired from Cecil G. Robinson. Cecil  
G. Robinson acquired from Iberville Plant-  
ing Co., Inc.

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Conveyance Records  
Vol. 47, Entry 571  
Jan. 26, 1923

Iberville Planting Co., Inc. acquired  
from J. Stone Ware.

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Conveyance Record  
Vol. 40, Entry 313  
June 2, 1909

J. Stone Ware acquired from Succession  
of James A. Ware.

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Conveyance Records  
Vol. 14, Entry 368  
Oct. 1, 1880

James A. Ware acquired from John N.  
Ware.

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Conveyance Records  
Vol. 14, Entry 47  
Feb. 26, 1879

John N. Ware and James A. Ware ac-  
quired from Henry Ware.

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Conveyance Records  
Vol. 9, Entry 42  
Jan. 23, 1868

Henry Ware acquired from John Andrews.

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Conveyance Records  
Vol. P., Entry 37  
July 14, 1835

John Andrews acquired. from  
Christopher Adams and his creditors.  
Judicial Sale.

Conveyance Records  
Vol. R., Entry 372  
April 12, 1837

John Andrews acquired from  
Thos. E. Ives.

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PHOTOGRAPHS - by Richard Koch and Beal Chambers

WATER COLORS - by Alvyk B. Cruise

DESCRIPTIVE DATA - by Richard Koch

Approved by - RICHARD KOCH, DISTRICT OFFICER  
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY IN LOUISIANA

*Reviewed - Dec. 1938 - JAS.*

# KEY TO COLOUR CHARTS OF BELLE GROVE PLANTATION

HASE  
LA.  
24. White.V  
1.

## EXTERIOR

Walls No. 14	Window Sash No. 13	Woodwork No. 16	Door Panels No. 15
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## INTERIOR

ROOMS	FIRST FLOOR COLOUR NUMBERS					
	WALLS	CEILING	CORNICE	BASEBOARDS	BLINDS	OTHER WOODWORK
Drawing Room	5	5		10	10	White
Parlor	5	5		10	10	White
Main Hall	5	5		10	10	White
Reception Room	5	5		10	10	White
Dressing Room	9	9		10	10	White
Bedroom No. 1	1	1	White	White	10	White
Dining Room	2	2	White	White		White
Housekeepers Room	4	4	-----	12	-----	12
Servants Waiting Rm.	White	White	-----	White	11	White
Servants Bedroom No.2	White	White	-----	White	11	White
Servants Bedroom No.1	3	3	-----	White	11	White
Bathroom	6	6	-----	White	11	White

ROOMS	SECOND FLOOR COLOUR NUMBERS					
	WALLS	CEILING	CORNICE	BASEBOARDS	BLINDS	OTHER WOODWORK
Bedroom No. 3	White	White	White	10	10	White
Bedroom No. 4	White	White	White	10	10	White



ROOMS	WALLS	CEILING	CORNICE	BASEBOARDS	BLINDS	OTHER WOODWORK
Bedroom No. 5	White	White	White	10	10	White
Bedroom No. 6	9	White	White	9	10	White
Closets	9	White	-----	9	10	White
Linen Room	White	White	-----	White	11	White
Bathroom	9	White	-----	9	11	White
Main Hall	7	White		10	10	White
Rear Stair Hall	7	White	-----	8 (Wainscot)	-----	White

Belle Grove, White Castle  
Iberville Parish,

HABS  
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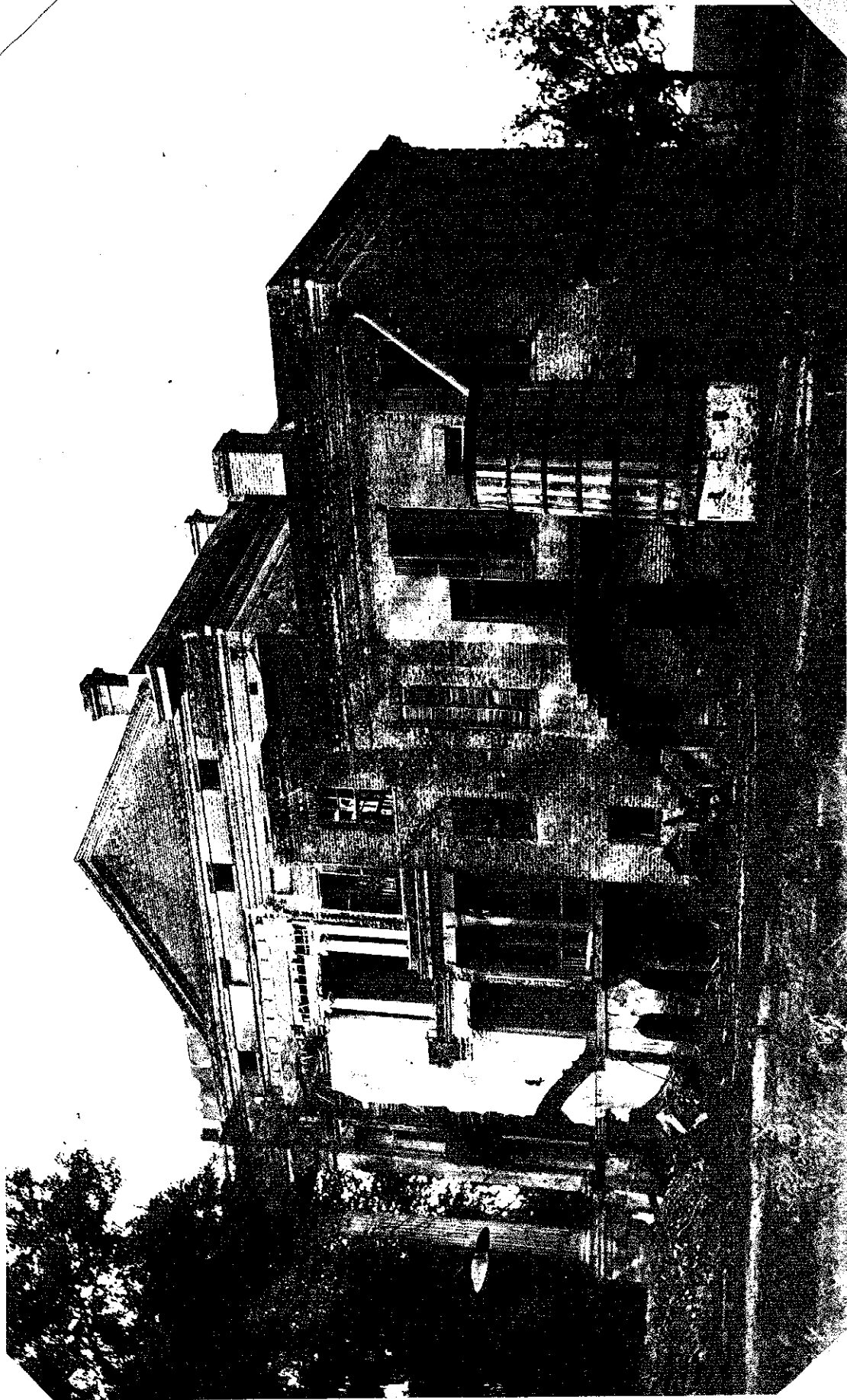
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NO NEGATIVE

REAR ELEVATION (LOOKING WEST)

NO NEGATIVE



Historic American Buildings Survey Copy  
Beale Chambers, Photographer  
(Made between November 1936 and March 1937)

Belle Grove, White Castle  
Iberville Parish, Louisiana

HABS No. La. 36

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NO NEGATIVE

DETAIL OF MODILLION BRACKET UNDER BALCONY

NO NEGATIVE

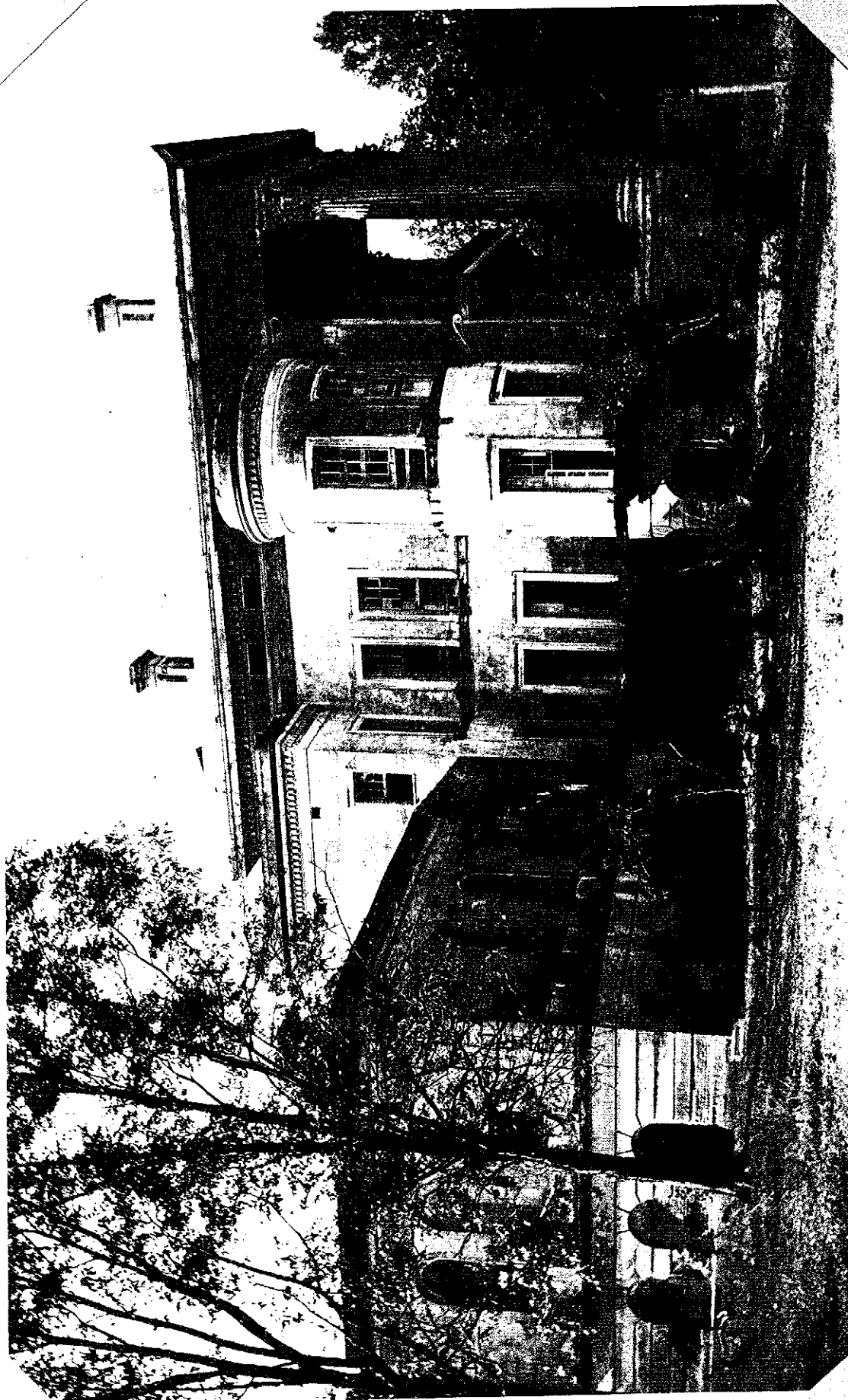


Historic American Buildings Survey. Copy.  
Beale Chambers, Photographer  
(Made between November 1936 and March 1937)

Belle Grove, White Castle  
Iberville Parish, Louisiana

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NO NEGATIVE



Northeast elevation

Historic American Buildings Survey Copy  
Beale Chambers, Photographer  
(Made between November 1936 and March 1937)

NO NEGATIVE

Belle Grove, White Castle  
Iberville Parish, La.

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NO NEGATIVE

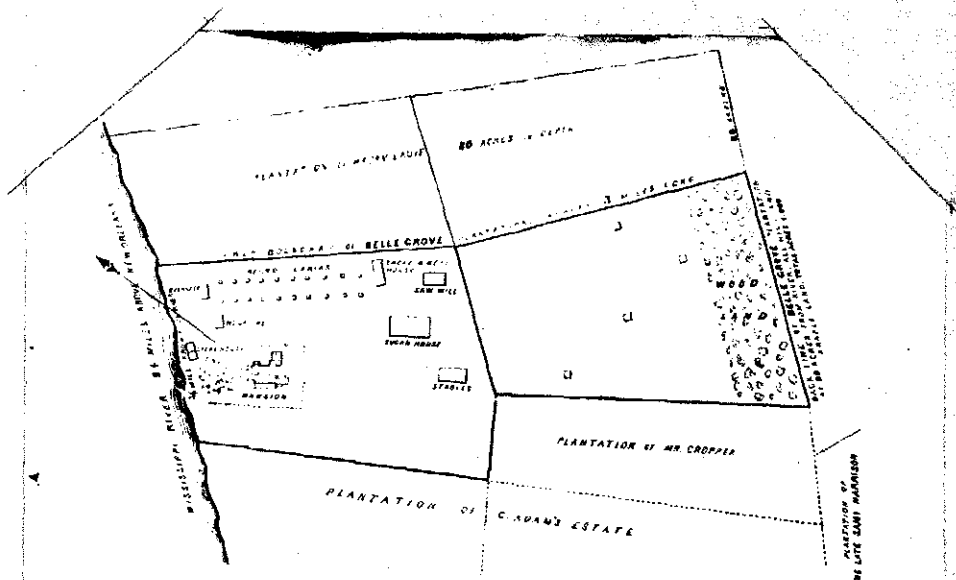


DETAIL OF WINDOW IN RECEPTION ROOM

Historic American Buildings Survey Copy.  
Beale Chambers, Photographer  
(Made between November 1936 and March 1937)

Belle Grove  
White Castle  
Iberville Parish  
Louisiana

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(none)



# FOR SALE.

This, the valuable Plantation known as "Belle Grove," is situated in the Parish of Iberville, Louisiana, 94 miles above the City of New Orleans, having a front on the Mississippi River of about 1/2 of a mile, and a depth of nearly 3 miles, containing 1,000 acres of very high, choice land, perfectly drained; about 1,000 acres having been under cultivation, the remainder being wood land.

No part of this Plantation has been overflowed by any "crevasse" or break in the levee since during the last 37 years the present owner has resided on it having the Bayou Plaquemine 15 miles above, and Bayou Lafourche 15 miles below, each bayou being large and navigable for steamboats which receive the water of any crevasse that may happen in this vicinity, and so has prevented any damage to crops.

The crops of Sugar and Molasses made, as to quantity per acre, and excellence of quality, has been equaled by few Plantations in Louisiana. The average products of Sugar grown on the place has been 14 hds from plant cane, and 1 hhd. from ratoon cane, per acre; also, 60 to 70 gallons Molasses to each hhd. of Sugar. The crop of 1896, my 3rd hhd. sold for \$97,000.

Last year a few acres were planted in Cotton and produced nearly 1 of a bale per acre, although the worm came early and destroyed much of the cotton.

The crop now growing consists of 80 acres of plant and 50 acres of stubble cane, also 150 acres of Corn.

The Improvements on the Plantation are:

- 1st.—A very elegant newly built Dwelling House of brick, situated in a beautiful view; roof shingles new plan. Water cistern in the roof holding 10,000 gallons, 10 rooms, bath, &c. This house cost \$75,000 in 1887.
- 2nd.—A large brick Store House, containing a superior main sugar, 100 horse power mill, 50 feet long, two small engines; a large sugar mill; two saws; one steam reaping machine; two purifiers, about 500 hds; a butter, sugar coolers, and other most appliances, which will allow of making a crop of over 1,000 hds.

3d.—A two-story Frame Dwelling House, containing eight rooms, also outside buildings.

4th.—Twenty superior Frame Dwellings (brick chimneys); each having a gallery in front, each three having two rooms, 14 x 16 feet. A two-story Brick House, also rooms—the 48 rooms giving accommodations for 120 laborers.

5th.—A large Frame Hospital, for large rooms.

6th.—A large Frame Concreting, brick chimney, to smoke and store all the sugar, bophaide and molasses barrels 12 used.

7th.—A steam Saw Mill, with engine, tubular boiler, 50 ft. saw; has mowed 4,000 feet lumber per day; has new drive belt attached.

8th.—A Brick Workman's Shop. Axle, tools, and saws below.

9th.—A large Warehouse near the banks of the river; capacity, 100 hds; used to store sugar waiting for shipment, and to receive articles for the Plantation.

10th.—Large Frame Stable and Cow Yard; stalls for 40 mules, and lots for storing hay on.

11th.—A large Brick Smoke and Meat House, capacity for 100 barrels pork, building, 30 x 40.

The society of the neighborhood is large, cultivated and social.

The climate is healthy, no case of yellow fever ever having occurred in the vicinity.

## ALSO FOR SALE.

With or without the above Plantation, WOOD LANDS, as follows: 100 Acres of high lands, covered with live Cypress and other timber, about 1 1/2 miles back from the Plantation; and 840 Acres swampy lands, in Cypress and other timber, 5 miles from Plantation. These tracts are valuable for furnishing an inexhaustible supply of Cypress for timber to the saw mill, for cooperage, fuel, and every necessity for Plantation use.

For terms and conditions of sale, apply to JOHN ANDREWS, Esq., on the premises, or to

**BARSTOW & POPE,**  
25 North St., New Y.

Second sheet of John Andrew's sale prospectus (probably 1868)  
Original in possession of Mrs. George Pigman, 1433 Pleasant St.,  
New Orleans, Louisiana.

Belle Grove  
White Castle  
Iberville Parish  
Louisiana

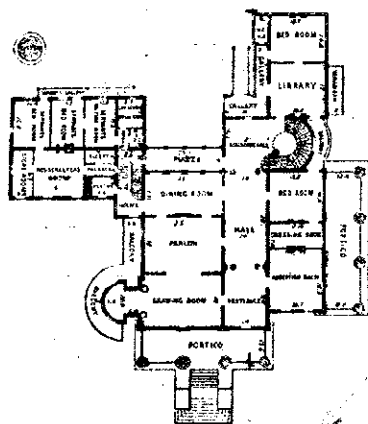
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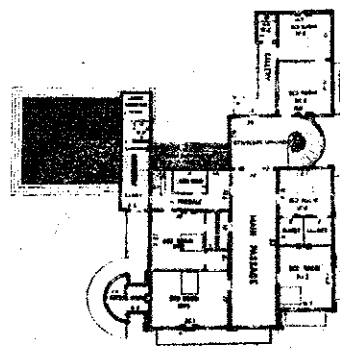
FRONT ELEVATION.



SIDE ELEVATION.



PLAN OF FIRST FLOOR.



PLAN OF SECOND STORY.

JOHN W. DUNN, Engraver on Wood and Printer, 90 NASSAU STREET, NEW YORK.

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